

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Plymouth Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of First Plymouth Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 1.0% (1,052) reside in the First Plymouth Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (200) of First Plymouth Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 71.7% of admissions from the First Plymouth Representative District were male and 28.3% were female.
- Over 62% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 90.7% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.8% were black non-Latino, 3.8% were Latino, 0.2% were Asians, and 2.3% were other racial categories.
- 52.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 18.3% were married, and 20.5% reported not to be married now.
- 25.0% of admissions had less than high school education, 48.3% completed high school, and 26.5% had more than high school education.
- 41.8% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 14.3% of those admitted were homeless.
- 12.8% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

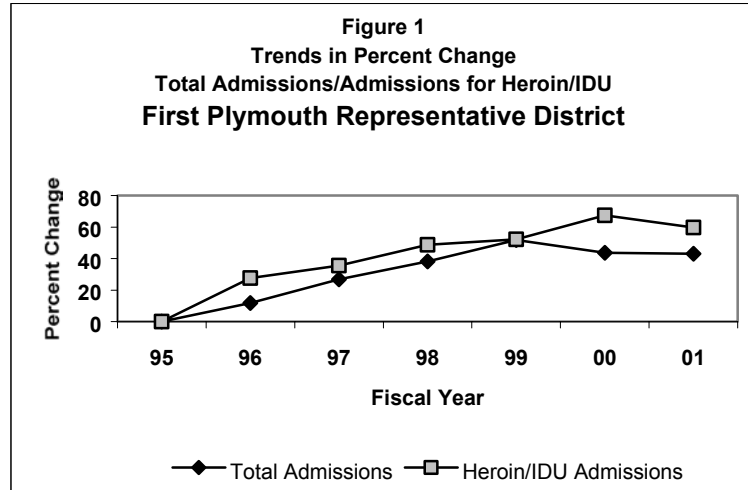
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the First Plymouth Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
First Plymouth Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	735	621	289	223	126	143	93
FY '96	822	652	309	239	144	171	130
FY '97	932	736	365	263	150	189	131
FY '98	1,015	793	328	260	141	209	142
FY '99	1,115	882	377	304	164	209	150
FY '00	1,056	788	316	261	135	232	163
FY '01	1,052	822	355	240	119	229	148

- Since FY 1995, residents of First Plymouth Representative District reported a steady increase in alcohol and heroin use. Alcohol use increased by 32% and heroin use by 60%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting crack use decreased by 5%, while marijuana and cocaine use increased by 22% and 7%, respectively.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the First Plymouth Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 43.1% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 59.7%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Plymouth Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	61.6 %	19.8%	7.0%	4.3%	2.8%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol, marijuana and cocaine was higher within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000